

METHOD OF INCREASING THE CARBON CHAIN LENGTH OF  
OLEFINIC COMPOUNDS

5

Abstract of the Invention

According to the present invention there is provided a process of increasing the carbon chain length of an olefinic compound comprising the steps of providing a starting olefinic compound and subjecting it to hydroformylation to produce an aldehyde and/or alcohol with an increased carbon chain length compared to the starting olefinic compound. Optionally, the aldehyde that may form during the hydroformylation reaction is hydrogenated to convert it to an alcohol which has an increased carbon chain length compared to the starting olefinic compound. The alcohol with the increased carbon chain length is subjected to dehydration to produce an olefinic compound with an increased carbon chain length compared to the starting olefinic compound. The invention also relates to olefinic compounds produced by the process.